

U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Texas

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JUNCTION MAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON ON CHARGES OF ATTEMPTED ENTICEMENT OF A CHILD FOR SEXUAL PURPOSES

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today 35-year-old **PHILLIP BRYAN STEWART** of Junction, Texas, was sentenced to 60 months in federal prison for Attempted Coercion and Enticement of a Minor.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Sam Sparks ordered strict prohibitions upon Stewart's use of computers, the Internet and chat rooms and required Stewart to register as a sex offender pursuant to state registration requirements. After completing his prison term he will be placed under supervised release for a period of five years.

"Men who prey on young children need to be punished and punished harshly. Today's sentence sends the strong message that if you try to hurt the most vulnerable members of our society, our kids, you will be caught, prosecuted and locked up for a long time," stated **U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton.**

On June 25, 2004, Stewart pled guilty to the charge. He admitted that on July 30, 2003, he used the internet to induce a minor to have sexual relations with him. Stewart was a Yahoo! Account holder with the name "txwantsome" and used this Yahoo! ID to communicate with a minor whom he thought to be 13 years old for the purposes of attempting to persuade the minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct. Instead of being a 13 year old child, it was an undercover officer with the Texas Attorney General's cybercrimes task force. Stewart was arrested the following day when he showed up at a planned meeting location to meet what he believed to be the 13 year old boy.

This case was investigated by the Texas Attorney General's cybercrimes task force and the Boerne Police Department. It was prosecuted for the government by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Grant Sparks.

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